



CALPEEK

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20th S.D. SPECIAL: LOW TURNOUT ELECTION FORCES ROBERTI INTO JUNE RUNOFF WITH ROWEN.

State Senate Pres. David Roberti(D) will be in a June 2nd runoff with GOper Carol Rowen in what could end up a very close contest, especially if the U.S. Supreme Court should rule on a controversial ABORTION question before June 2. Roberti is a solid PRO-Life Demo, while Rowen is a vocal PRO-Choice Republican. If the court ruled against Roe vs. Wade, PRO-Choice activists would probably unite in an all out effort to defeat the veteran lawmaker...

...In the April 7 primary, Roberti got just 34% of the vote. Rowen was the top GOP candidate with 21%. Turnout in this 20th S.D. special was a low 21.5%. There are 229,000 registered voters in this San Fernando Valley S.D. and about 56% are Demos...

...Some insiders were somewhat surprised with Roberti's mediocre performance, given the MONEY he spent (around \$300,000) and his Democratic opposition. One Demo, Drew Angel, kept advocating colonization of the Moon. That gives you an indication of what Roberti was up against -- lightweights with NO funding. Regardless, these lightweights hammered Roberti on carpetbagging. In addition, Demo PRO-GUN candidate Bill Domin-guez got 4% of the vote with help from the PRO-GUN lobby. They were settling old scores with Roberti...

...The results also raise a number of unanswered questions. Who will the PRO-GUN lobby support in June? Will PRO-Life Republicans cross over to vote for Roberti? Will PRO-Choice Demos desert the otherwise liberal Roberti for Rowen? Will Gov. Pete Wilson jump in to help Rowen? And will the independent candidates from the P&F, Libertarians and Greens match their almost 7% combined showing in the runoff???

...FYI: There is a controversy as to whether or not GOP Assemblywoman Tricia Hunter gave approval to Rowen to publish a rather nasty hit on Roberti. If she didn't okay the letter, is that a violation of the new Craven Law, which prohibits such practices? Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '92: 2 TOUGH STATE SENATE RACES.

Editor's note: Here is another update on primary races for legislative seats. This week CALPEEK focuses on two State Senate contests, both in So. Calif., and both OPEN with NO INCUMBENTS...

• 19th S.D. - The retirement of popular State Sen. Ed Davis(R-Valencia) opened the door for what could be one of the more brutal GOP primaries in Calif. The 19th S.D. has a heavy GOP registration edge, so Demos need not apply. The two combatants are former Assemblywoman Marian La Follette and current Assemblywoman Cathie Wright. Both are well known among GOP voters in this Ventura/L.A. County S.D. The rivalry between them centers on Davis: La Follette is a Davis ally, while Wright and Davis are bitter enemies. Filmore Councilman Roger Campbell is also on the GOP primary ballot, but is not considered a serious threat...

...In terms of MONEY and ENDORSEMENTS, the edge belongs to Wright. Her legislative support comes from a broad range of GOP lawmakers, from Assembly Leader Bill Jones to hardliners such as David Knowles and Mickey Conroy. And even Pat Nolan is listed as a Wright supporter, and she nearly decked him last year with "the slap heard round the Capitol Dome." And Wright has a lead in money - with about \$138,000 cash on hand. And most important, Wright again has the services of consultants Gary Huckaby and Carlos Rodriguez. They've been

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through the Davis/Wright Wars before and have always come out on top...

...La Follette's manager is Martha Zilm, Davis's key operative. Consultant Ron Smith is also helping out, but his time is very limited because of his U.S. Senate campaign. La Follette doesn't have as many endorsements from elected officials, but those she does have are excellent - from Assemblyman Tom McClintock to Ventura Co. DA Mike Bradbury and Ventura Co. Sup. Maria VanderKolk. La Follette also has won backing from the L.A. Police Protective League and the Ventura Co. Deputy Sheriffs. These are key endorsements...

...There's not much difference in terms of how they feel about key issues, although during this campaign CRIME might turn out as an issue that La Follette plays up. One of her supporters, Patti Linebaugh (grandmother of a little girl who was murdered by Theodore Frank) blasted Wright for voting with Assembly Demos to slash the CA Supreme Court's budget by 38%. Will that catch on? Too early to tell. CALPEEK gives an edge to Wright for the time being, but this could change...

- 25th S.D. - Since the beginning of 1991 there were rumors that ailing State Sen. Bill Greene(D-L.A.) would not seek re-election. And he's not. So into the void comes Assemblywoman Teresa Hughes, with backing from Speaker Willie Brown, U.S. Rep. Julian Dixon, State Sens. Ralph Dills and Diane Watson, plus Mayor Ed Vincent of Inglewood. So far, great, except for one thing: the 25th S.D. is all NEW turf for Hughes. Her primary opponent is Lynwood Councilman Paul H. Richards, who is the Asst. City Mgr. of Compton. Richards does NOT have as long a list of supporters, but Greene and U.S. Rep. Mervyn Dymally are key players on Richards team. More important, Richards is walking and Hughes's ground operation is just now getting started. Richards campaign consultant Ken Orduna knows he's outgunned by Hughes's potential resources, but smells an upset. Reggie Fair is Hughes's daily mgr., while Berman & D'Agostino will do the mail for Hughes. CALPEEK rates Hughes a favorite now, but keep your eyes on Richards. An upset is possible...

- 55th A.D. - A new poll by Decision

Research for Carson Councilwoman Juanita McDonald shows her leading both Assemblymembers Dave Elder(D) and Dick Floyd(D). McDonald had 23% to 18% for Elder and 15% Floyd. A large 44% were undecided. The sample size of this poll was 475 high propensity Demo voters. Stay tuned...

WATSON VS. BURKE: BATTLE TO REPLACE HAHN.
Editor's note: Of all the COUNTY SUPERVISORIAL campaigns in So. Calif. this year, the battle to see who replaces retiring L.A. Co. Sup. Kenneth Hahn is the one drawing the most interest. Hahn has been a political fixture in Calif. politics since his first term on the Board of Supervisors in 1952. Most insiders agree that his 2nd District seat will eventually go to either State Sen. Diane Watson or former Congresswoman Yvonne Burke, both role models in the Black community. Here is CALPEEK's update & analysis...

...This hasn't been an easy campaign for Watson. The TURNOVER in key staff has been heavy and this has hurt her campaign. She has been through two(2) good daily managers (Marcella Howell & Kerman Maddox) and this past week decided to replace mail and media consultant Rick Taylor with Harvey Englander. Sources in the Watson campaign have their fingers crossed that Englander will take charge and crack the whip. Sources say Taylor's problem in the campaign had more to do with Watson's unofficial cabinet of advisors, who were constantly playing Monday morning QB with Taylor's campaign plans. Englander won't tolerate that kind of nonsense...

...Burke has been fortunate in that her campaign has not suffered from this internal feuding. Consultant Ken Orduna has taken command and Burke seems to be moving along at a good pace. Her campaign claims to be walking precincts and a phone bank operation has been going for some time...

...In terms of issues, Burke & Watson are NOT far apart. So it's really a matter of STYLE. Most insiders would probably agree that Watson is the more confrontational of the two; in other words, closer to a Gloria Molina, the newest supervisor on the L.A. Board. While the Burke camp acknowledges this, at the same time they point out if you can't advance your agenda because of your style, what good are you?? The Molina

factor may also help Watson overcome a certain anti-incumbency mood among voters. While Molina is a well-known elected leader, people regard her as an OUTSIDER...

...When it comes to endorsements, both have lots of well known officials who support them. So does former Carson Mayor Gil Smith, who is a 2nd tier candidate behind Watson and Burke. BUT the big endorsement is that of Hahn. That endorsement has gone to Burke and her campaign is playing it up BIG TIME. A mailer just went out this past week from Hahn to 2nd District voters. The Watson campaign tends to play down the Hahn endorsement, saying it's A WASH. Most insiders think Hahn's endorsement is a plus, but it's NOT the key factor in this race...

...MONEY. Like the rest of the campaign, money has been a problem for Watson, but perhaps she's turned the corner. Fundraiser Robert Kaplan is aboard and Bondie Gambrell is one of the key players on Watson's executive finance committee. Still, Burke has more cash-on-hand at present...

...BOTTOMLINE: A runoff is almost a certainty. One of the key questions is how Watson and Burke will do outside the Black community. The 2nd District has a 59% Black voter registration, but 30% of the voters are White, 8% Hispanic and 3% Asian. Watson has much better name ID overall, but her very slow start in getting organized has given Burke an advantage for now. Can Watson catch up?? Stay tuned...

LOCAL ELECTIONS '92" CITY-COUNTY ROUNDUP.

Editor's note: Here's another roundup of CITY-COUNTY elections taking place April 14 and June 2...

- SAN JOSE GIANTS STADIUM - The campaign to finance the construction of a new baseball stadium to lure the Nat'l League's S.F. Giants to San Jose seems on track, but there is now credible, but under-funded OPPOSITION in the form of Citizens Against Stadium Taxes - or CAST. As CAST officials note, the stadium won't be built with money from the tooth fairy, but rather from a hike in the city's utility tax. Cost is estimated at upwards of \$185 million, but CAST is suspicious because of the cost overruns on the San Jose Arena, now under construction. The arena's price was once esti-

mated at \$75 million, but is now at \$132 million. Private polling is believed to show the voters are just about evenly split on Measure G, with perhaps a slight tilt toward NO, with a small undecided. The election is June 2...

- CARD CLUB FOR NATIONAL CITY - A petition drive has begun in National City (San Diego County) to qualify a Nov. 3rd ballot measure to allow the construction and operation of The Harbor Club, a poker club. The proponent is Highland Roosevelt Corp. and its two owners, Will Donald Gardner and Chao C. Wu. Once up and running, the club is expected to generate about \$2 million annually in city taxes. Proponents need to collect about 1,500 signatures from now until May 18. Consultants are Nuffer, Smith, Tucker Inc. and Townsend & Co...

- L.A. CITY POLICE REFORMS - The battle over how L.A.'s new police chief is hired and fired, along with terms limits for the chief, is finally heating up. The YES on Charter Amendment F Cmt. (the official committee name is Citizens for Law Enforcement & Reform - CLEAR), has been quietly building up a large warchest and establishing a grassroots network in various parts of the city. Most of the media focus has been on the YES side, but that's about to change...

...On April 14 the L.A. Police Protective League (LAPPL) has tentatively set a news conference to explain why they are OPPOSED to this amendment. As the police league sees it, Measure F doesn't go far enough in addressing key parts of the Christopher Commission Report, which made numerous recommendations on how the department should be improved. The commission was established after Rodney King was beaten by 4 policemen, who are now on trial. The LAPPL's campaign, which is SEPARATE from that of Chief Daryl Gates, will be run by Austin-Sheinkopf. Once this news conference is finished, the war of words and counter-claims will begin to fly -- especially if LAPPL Pres. Bill Violante hits the mayor and city council with the charge that Measure F is nothing but a political takeover of the L.A.P.D. Stay tuned...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: MIXED VIEWS AS TO WHETHER SCHOOL VOUCHER PLAN WILL QUALIFY.

Editor's note: With an Apr. 17 deadline facing various committees who have initiative petitions still in the field, here is a brief CALPEEK update on the SCHOOL CHOICE (voucher) initiative...

...Kevin Teasley, vice chair of ExCEL, Excellence through Choice in Education, told CALPEEK that he expects his group to qualify the school voucher initiative for the November 1992 ballot. Teasley said ExCEL will turn in petitions at the end of April. The official 150-day petition drive deadline is May 28. Teasley would NOT discuss numbers or even estimates...

...HOWEVER, independent CALPEEK sources say they'd be very surprised if the school voucher initiative has anywhere near the required signatures to make the November ballot. A constitutional amendment requires about 615,958 valid signatures. But to assure qualification, most CALPEEK sources agree that proponents need to collect at least 1 million names. Sources believe the paid effort for school vouchers will hit about 600,000 --- meaning the ExCEL volunteer effort needs to gather another 400,000 names. CALPEEK sources say that with a few exceptions, past history shows that volunteers have a tough time getting more than 100,000 valid signatures. Another CALPEEK source says if ExCEL continues its drive up to its official May 28 deadline, then ExCEL would have a FAIR SHOT at securing a spot on the June 1994 ballot...

APR. 14 ORANGE CO. RECEPTION FOR GINGRICH.

Republican Associates of Orange Co. will honor U.S. Rep. Newt Gingrich, GOP House whip, with a reception, 5 to 7 p.m., April 14, Hyatt Regency Hotel in Irvine. For info, Wendy Cantor (714)830-4322...

PEROT FOR PRESIDENT DRIVE HAS CALIF. PHONE.

The L.A. County Perot Petition Cmt. now has a phone number - (818)RU4-ROSS. The Ross Perot for President phone bank operation runs from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday thru Saturday. The petition drive begins April 24. For CA media inquiries, contact Karen Kukurin (818)789-8453...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Sacto-based Russo Marsh + Associates has signed 5 GOP congressional clients, including Santa Clarita Councilman Buck McKeon in the 25th C.D. Armando Azarioza is handling daily mgt. in this race...

- S.F.-based consultants Ambrosino & Muir tapped to handle Demo Assemblyman Rusty Areias' reelection campaign...

- L.A. consultant Susan Burnisde hired to assist in Tom Hayden's bid for the 23rd State Senate district Demo primary...

- Campaign mgr. Faith Pincus hired by Orange Co.-based Campaign Management, Inc. as a Sr. Associate. Lynne Connolly has been named production mgr. at CMI...

- Winner/Wagner & Mandabach Cmps. have relocated their NY office to 152 W. 57th St., 18th Floor, NY 10019 (212)765-6767...

- Burson Marsteller Public Relations has opened a Sacto office at 980 9th St., 16th Floor, Sacto 95814 (916)449-9917. Gwyn Bicker is the firm's Sr. associate. FYI: former campaign consultant Ken Rietz is an exec. VP of PA for B-M in the firm's L.A. office...

- Campaign consultant Marc Litchman is handling Demo Jane Harman's 36th C.D. primary campaign. He's also running Demo Kevin Sweeney's 23rd C.D. primary race...

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